

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1-15 are currently pending in the subject application. By this amendment, claims 1, 7-10, and 15 are amended, claims 16-21 are newly added, and claims 1-21 are presented to the Examiner for further consideration on the merits.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's acknowledgement of applicants' claim for foreign priority and receipt of a certified copy of the priority document.

Applicants request, in the next Office action, that the Examiner indicate the acceptability of the drawings filed on May 25, 2004.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's acceptance of the drawings filed July 7, 2003.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's consideration of applicants' Information Disclosure Statement filed December 4, 2003.

A. Introduction

In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner objected to the specification because of language informalities; rejected claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter; and rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,050,789 to Kallio et al. (hereinafter referred to as "the Kallio et al. reference").

These rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

B. Objection to the Specification

In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner objected to the specification because of language informalities. The cited paragraph and other sections of the specification have been amended. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

C. Rejection of Claims 7-9 as Being Directed to Non-Statutory Subject Matter

In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner objected to the specification's definition of computer readable media as encompassing carrier waves. Claims 7-9 are now limited to tangible computer media and the specification's definition of computer readable media no longer includes carrier waves. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

D. Asserted Anticipation Rejection of Claims 1-15

In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the Kallio et al. reference.

As amended, independent claims 1 and 12 now recite creation of a plurality of temporary address sets by randomly transforming a unique Media Access Control (MAC) address of a wireless terminal. As described in lines 58-62 of column 2, the Kallio et al. reference uses a MAC address as an identifier in a request from a terminal. As further described in lines 41-43 of column 3, the Kallio et al. reference creates an anonymity address only in the case where the request did not include an identifier. Moreover, as described in lines 45-46 of column 3, the Kallio et al. reference does not generate temporary address sets by randomly transforming a MAC address, but instead creates anonymity addresses whose composition bear no relation to any identifier. The Kallio et al. reference, as described in lines 29-34 of column 4, only uses a MAC address as an associatable identifier, and not for generation of temporary address sets. There is absolutely no disclosure in the Kallio et al. reference of random transformation of a MAC address. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Claims 2-9 ultimately depend from independent claim 1. Hence, claims 2-9 are allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim, namely independent claim 1, which includes allowable subject matter not found in the references of record. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Claims 11-15 ultimately depend from independent claim 10. Hence, claims 11-15 are allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim, namely independent claim 10, which includes allowable subject matter not found in the references of record. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

E. New Claims 16-21

Claims 16-21 are added by the instant amendment. No new matter is added. Support for claims 16-18 may be found in the application as originally filed, for example, on pages 12-13 in paragraph [0033]. Support for claims 19-21 may be found in the application as originally filed, for example, on page 15 in paragraph [0040]. Applicants respectfully request entry and examination of new claims 16-21.

F. Conclusion

The remaining documents cited by the Examiner were not relied on to reject the claims. Therefore, no comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of this application is earnestly solicited, and an early and favorable further action upon all the claims is hereby requested.

If the Examiner believes that additional discussions or information might advance the prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below to expedite resolution of any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 5, 2007


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PETITION and
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CHARGE AUTHORIZATION

This document and any concurrently filed papers are believed to be timely. Should any extension of the term be required, applicant hereby petitions the Director for such extension and requests that any applicable petition fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

If fee payment is enclosed, this amount is believed to be correct. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

Any additional fee(s) necessary to effect the proper and timely filing of the accompanying papers may also be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.